

### **Follow-Up on OPEGA's Public Utilities Commission Report (2013)**

The GOC is following up on the effectiveness of the action taken by the Office of Public Advocate to address a primary issue in the report related to consumers who wanted to represent themselves before the PUC (see attached Recommendation).

The Office of Public Advocate created a position whose function, in part, was to facilitate consumers' ability to effectively represent themselves in adjudicatory proceedings before the Commission. The idea was to have a person that was not subject to ex parte communication rules to assist and advise members of the public in navigating the adjudicatory process and various procedures at the PUC.

The GOC is interested in hearing from OPA on how often the new position is filling this role and whether there are unanticipated challenges that need to be addressed, or unexpected benefits that have been experienced.

### **Follow-Up on OPEGA's Child Development Services Report (2012)**

Following issuance of this report, the GOC introduced legislation that was enacted as PL 2013 Chapter 338. The purpose of the bill was to require improved reporting to the Legislature on key financial and performance aspects of CDS and its programs in order to enhance transparency, accountability and legislative oversight. As a result, Title 20-A Part 4, Chapter 303, section 7209 now specifies an extensive list of financial, program and performance information and measures that are to be included in CDS' annual reports to the Education and AFA Committees. There is also specified financial information that is to be provided to Office of Fiscal and Program Review on a monthly basis. CDS issued its first annual report under the new reporting requirements in February 2014 and there are now three years of reports produced in this format.

At the July 21, 2016 GOC meeting, the GOC received input from the CDS Director on effort required by CDS to produce the enhanced reporting and other actions CDS has completed including implementation of a new data system.

Subsequently, at the GOC's direction, the OPEGA Director sought feedback from Education and AFA Committees on the usefulness of the enhanced reports for those committees and/or the legislative staff that supports them.